

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6058
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2002
AMENDMENTS TO WILDLIFE (PROTECTION) ACT, 1972
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have received any proposals from various States for amending the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a),(b)&(c) After detailed discussion with the State Governments, NGOs and eminent wildlife experts, the Central Government has formulated Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Bill. The salient features of the proposed Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill are as follows:

- i) Involvement of local communities in management of wild life in protected areas and using the forest usufructs that are available in the process of management of the habitat of wild animals being available explicitly to the local communities.
- ii) Making punitive sections of the Act more stringent and effective.
- iii) Making Indian Board for Wild Life a statutory body.
- iv) Ensuring expeditious settlement of rights of people within national parks and sanctuaries.